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A THREE FAMILY RECORD

KIRBY • DURKEE • WALKER

JOHN WALKER KIRBY



John Walker Kirby

A HISTORICAL
AND
GENEALOGICAL RECORD
OF

THE KIRBY FAMILY
THE DURKEE FAMILY
THE WALKER FAMILY

By

JOHN WALKER KIRBY
New York City

2007097

This presentation is for the purpose of bringing to those interested a brief history of their ancestors and families from the time they came to these shores until the present — the dangers they faced, the hardships they endured, the difficulties they encountered, and the will and courage to overcome and succeed in a new world which they learned to love and call their own. This is my message.

J. W. K.

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John Walker Kirby, the author and compiler of this little volume, was born in Walker Valley, Ulster County, N. Y., December 16, 1868. He was the son of Jeremiah Platt Kirby and Roxana Preston Durkee.

His early years were spent on his father's farm near Walker Valley doing all kinds of farm work with little opportunity for schooling or social activities. Soon after he became of age he attended the Albany Business College in Albany, N. Y., where he received a diploma in their Commercial Course, after which he came to New York City where he resided for over fifty years, being connected with different concerns as an expert accountant.

He early joined the Masons and as the years went by became a Life Member in the following Masonic Fraternities: New York Lodge No. 330, F. & A.M., where he became Worshipful Past Master; Manhattan Chapter No. 184, R.S.M.; Adelphic Council No. 7, R. & S.M.; Manhattan Commandery No. 31, K.T.; Mecca Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S. and Mecca Temple Band; Rainbow Matinee Chapter No. 616, O.E.S.; M. & P.M. Association 3rd Manhattan District; Masonic Veterans of New York; Fraternal Union, Anointed High Priests.

He was also active in politics, being a member of the

Republican National Club, Twenty-third Assembly District, Manhattan, for many years; served as a delegate to their conventions, and always an ardent worker for the higher principles of better government. Also served many times on the Grand Jury often acting as Secretary.

Was an active member of Holy Trinity Church until destroyed by fire, after which he became affiliated with the Church of the Transfiguration, known as the "Little Church Around the Corner", 1 East 29th Street, New York City.

ELIZABETH KIRBY DURKES

PREFACE

I have given many hours of time, energy and research to the careful preparation of the interesting events and genealogical data recorded in this small volume, and I trust you will bear with me for any errors of omission or commission which you may find therein. I have endeavored to present the facts as nearly accurate and authentic as I could obtain them from various sources, and to all those who have assisted me in obtaining this information and data, I wish to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation.

However, in order that you may make corrections and additions as to your own individual family, I have included several blank pages after each section of this book on which you may enter and continue your historical and genealogical happenings as they may occur from year to year and from generation to generation, thus preserving for yourselves and posterity a most interesting and continuous record of facts and events. If you will do this I shall feel that my work, time and labor in the preparation and publication of this book have been helpful and worthwhile.

I have known and loved many of those whose names are recorded here and may the blessings, love and peace, that cometh only from above, abide with you all now and in the generations to come.

November 15, 1944.

John Walker Kirby

Acknowledgements

I hereby acknowledge with sincere thanks and grateful appreciation the valuable assistance so freely given me by the following.

For the Kirby Family:

John Walker Kirby Jr.

Anna Kirby Girard

Thomas Benedict Girard

Elizabeth Kirby Durkes

Eva Kirby Harris

Lloyd Garfield Kirby

Anna Kirby Phillips

Kathleen Esser Stumm

James Elmer Kirby

James M. M. Kirby

For the Durkee Family:

Mary Elizabeth Durkee Rhodes

Ellsworth Lee Durkee

Jessie Goldney Durkee

Mary Pearl Eaton

Walter K. Durkee

Edna Hultslander Camp

Anna Kirby Girard

Elizabeth Kirby Durkes

For the Walker Family:

Jacob S. Walker

Harold Haviland Walker

Mary Walker Blood

Gerald Smith Walker

Mary Pearl Eaton

Stuart Cliff Eaton

Gladys Westerman

Irving Walker Soare

Marion Soare Markus

Caroline Elisabeth Rogers

Sarah Elizabeth Clark Laing

Edna Grace Clark Sanderson

JOHN WALKER KIRBY

THE KIRBY FAMILY

Historical

Edward Kirby was born in Buckinghamshire, England, December 14, 1783, the eldest son of a competent family. At the age of 19 years, while on a visit to his cousin in London, he was seized by a press gang and impressed into the service of the British Navy. He was sent on board the ship "Leopard" which was ordered to cruise off the coast of the Desert of Arabia, and while there he succeeded in getting ashore, but was pursued, captured, taken back on board the ship and punished with four dozen lashes from a cat-o-nine tails on his bare back.

Soon after he was transferred to the ship "Sirius" which sailed for America. One night while on the lookout at the mast head he saw land but did not report it to the commanding officer, and in the darkness the ship went high and dry on the flats off the coast of North Carolina. When the tide left her she was about five miles from the water, and young Kirby and the whole crew except the officers, walked ashore and managed to effect an escape. In the hunt for them which ensued an American ship was fired upon, thus indirectly bringing on the War of 1812. Later a reward of 500 pounds Sterling

was offered by the British Government for his capture and conviction.

He was later smuggled on board a schooner and came to Westchester County, New York, where he married Anna Platt, December 1, 1811. She was the daughter of James Platt and Hannah Simpkins Platt, and was born in Bedford, Westchester County, June 28, 1794, and the grand-daughter of Vincent Simpkins, who was the first white child born in the town of Bedford. His family settled among the Indians, and the Indian Chief gave him one mile square of land in Westchester County.

Vincent Simpkins and his five sons were killed in the Revolutionary War. The youngest son, Isaac Simpkins, was too young to go to war. He received the five soldiers' rights belonging to his elder brothers, with his own, which amounted to 160 acres of land for each one, located at Canandaigua, N. Y. He bought out his five sisters, giving them \$5.00 each for their rights in this property, and settled at Canandaigua.

Edward Kirby worked in a flour mill in Westchester County for a time, then removed to Newburgh, N. Y., and worked in the same industry there. When the War of 1812 came on, on account of being a British subject, he was required to re-

move sixty miles from tidewater, and he and his wife located on the Shawangunk Mountains in the town of Mamakating, Sullivan County, N. Y., three miles west of Jamesburgh (now Walker Valley). This was only thirty miles west from the Hudson River, but at that time it was in a dense wooded section, almost away from civilization, and he felt reasonably safe from molestation. Here he built a log cabin in the woods and lived there until 1846. He raised a family of ten children, eight sons and two daughters. The remains of the old log cabin are still to be found on that same site, the rude hut having stood for over 125 years.

He made his livelihood by clearing and tilling what little land he had, cutting cordwood and burning coal pits, the charcoal being hauled to Newburgh by oxen to market. The family were obliged to endure many hardships; often the children had no shoes and were obliged to go barefoot all winter through cold and snow; their food was of the commonest kind and often scarce at that; the bare necessities of life were considered great luxuries. The woods in those early days were inhabited with all sorts of wild animals, and many interesting anecdotes were related of encounters with bears, wolves, etc.

During the War of 1812, while making a trip to Newburgh with a load of staves in the early morning, Mr. Kirby picked up a newspaper by the roadside and read by the light of the moon a notice in the paper of his own name registered by the British Government and 500 pounds Sterling reward offered for his capture dead or alive. He threw the paper aside and apparently gave little thought to the incident. He was never molested. He was reported to have been a great reader, but with little opportunity to indulge in this diversion; however, when he could secure a newspaper it was with great difficulty that he could tear himself away from it until he had consumed its entire contents.

It is related that on one occasion while on his way home from the Newburgh market he stopped at a house for a little rest and refreshment, and finding a newspaper became so absorbed in its contents and oblivious to time or place, that the patient oxen, after waiting more than a reasonable time longed for their shelter and supper and continued the journey home with the cart in an orderly manner, without their driver, and were comfortably stabled in the old log barn with a bundle of hay when their master, trudging along in the dark still clutching the coveted newspaper, arrived some time later very much annoyed.

While residing here Mr. Kirby received advice from his brother William, a minister in England, that his father (who was also named Edward) had passed away, and Edward being the eldest son inherited the entire estate, which it was understood was of considerable importance; his brother stated that he was occupying the property temporarily, but that any time Edward would come back to England, it was his. Edward, doubtless reflecting on his past experiences with the British authorities, decided that it might be better for his health and happiness to remain in America, and advised his brother to continue to use the property, that he would never return to claim the estate. It is understood that the property was later applied to the British Crown in accordance with the English law.

In the Fall of 1846, on account of the cold rigorous winters and advanced age, Mr. Kirby and his wife removed from their Shawangunk Mountain home and took up their residence in Pocahontas County, West Virginia. When the War of the Rebellion broke out in 1861 his sympathies were with the North, and being a man who expressed his feelings very freely and emphatically, this soon became known, and one day while on his way to a mill with grist, he was seized by a band of Southern rebels who confiscated all his property in-

cluding \$300.00 in gold which he carried in a belt around his body, and although seventy-nine years of age and almost blind, was tried by the State of Virginia for treason, convicted, and confined in prison at Richmond, Virginia, and later transferred to Salisbury Prison, Salisbury, North Carolina, where he died of starvation on July 4, 1864, after remaining there twelve months. His family would never have known of his death had it not been for Colonel Cochran who was confined in the same prison and learned of the hero's death and notified his relatives. His death notice was published in the New York Times the following day.

Anna Platt Kirby, wife of Edward Kirby above referred to, was born in Bedford, Westchester County, N. Y., June 28, 1794. She died in 1861; soon after her husband was taken prisoner, almost immediately after the battle of Bull Run, and although ill and without medical aid the rebels confiscated all her property, even to the bed in her house. Her two sons Archimedes and John, who were sharpshooters, escaped to the woods and lived for three weeks on berries and anything they could find to eat, and finally reached the Union Lines and enlisted in the 29th Ohio Regiment. Archimedes died in the army, and John was honorably discharged after the war was over.

Genealogical

Edward Kirby, born in Buckinghamshire, England, December 14, 1783, died July 14, 1862. He married December 1, 1811, Anna Platt, born in Westchester County, N. Y., June 28, 1794, died in 1861. Their family consisted of eight sons and two daughters:

<i>Second Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>	<i>Died</i>
Edward Kirby Jr.	Jan. 27, 1813	1891
Samuel W. Kirby	Sept. 22, 1814	date unknown
Jeremiah P. Kirby	Jan. 25, 1817	Oct. 11, 1880
Hannah Kirby	Jan. 1, 1819	date unknown
William S. Kirby	March 13, 1821	1906
James P. Kirby	May 1, 1823	April 13, 1898
Elizabeth Ann Kirby	Oct. 29, 1827	1844
George P. Kirby	July 14, 1830	1846
Archimedas Kirby	Jan. 30, 1833	1863
John Kirby	Nov. 29, 1835	1872

Edward Kirby Jr. (2nd gen.) married Temperance Wilson in 1842, and located on a farm at Salisbury Mills, Orange County, N. Y. Their family consisted of two sons:

<i>Third Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>	<i>Died</i>
Wilson Kirby	July 28, 1844	Oct. 31, 1924
John Kirby	May 15, 1847	March 24, 1877

Wilson Kirby (3rd gen.) continued on the old homestead. He married Katherine M. Thompson November 20, 1872. Their family consisted of three sons and one daughter:

<i>Fourth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>	<i>Died</i>
James M. M. Kirby	March 1, 1875	
Frederick W. Kirby	July 22, 1879	
Benjamin A. Kirby	Aug. 1, 1881	
Nellie A. Kirby	Sept. 3, 1877	March 10, 1928

John Kirby (3rd gen.) married Helen Horton in 1879. Their family consisted of one son and one daughter:

<i>Fourth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>	<i>Died</i>
Willie Kirby	1872	1926
Lizzie Kirby	1870	1890

Samuel W. Kirby (2nd gen.) married Lucinda Gibbs about 1844 and located at Geneva, N. Y. No information is obtainable regarding their family.

Jeremiah Platt Kirby (2nd gen.) married Eunice Coddington, December 23, 1841. Their family consisted of two sons and five daughters:

<i>Third Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>	<i>Died</i>
Hannah Ann Kirby	June 14, 1843	1906
Daniel Wesley Kirby	Dec. 8, 1845	Oct. 1887
Margaret E. Kirby	Feb. 28, 1848	Sept. 27, 1862
Sarah Catherine Kirby	March 16, 1850	Sept. 1877
Archie Medas Kirby	July 26, 1853	1938
Mary A. Kirby	May 5, 1855	
Temperance Emily Kirby	June 4, 1857	April 4, 1858

Hannah Ann Kirby (3rd gen.) married William H. Crawford in 1863. They had several children.

Daniel Wesley Kirby (3rd gen.) was twice married. He had one son.

Sarah Catherine Kirby (3rd gen.) married Gabriel C. Lynch December 10, 1872. They had two children (twins):

Fourth Generation

Dora Lynch

Delia Lynch

Archie Medas Kirby (3rd gen.) was an engineer on the Mobile & Ohio R.R. for a number of years in Jackson, Tenn. He married Nannie Herrage May 6, 1879. She died in 1889. Their family consisted of three daughters and two sons:

<i>Fourth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>	<i>Died</i>
Maggie Kirby	1880	
Flora Kirby	1882	Sept. 20, 1933
Laura Gladys Kirby	July 22, 1884	March 20, 1913
William Edward Kirby	Aug., 1886	March 8, 1925
Bertram Wesley Kirby	April 27, 1889	

Maggie Kirby (4th gen.) married Jesse Hamilton in Lexington, Tenn. Their family consisted of two sons and two daughters.

Fifth Generation

Hubert Hamilton

Sadie Hamilton

Ada Hamilton

Wesley Hamilton

Flora Kirby (4th gen.) married William L. Earls. Their family consisted of one son and one daughter:

Fifth Generation

William L. Earls Jr.

Clyde Earls

Flora Kirby (4th gen.) was again married to George P. Bankston. Their family consisted of two sons and two daughters:

Fifth Generation

Pauline Bankston

Irene Bankston

James Elmer Bankston

Aaron Bankston

William L. Earls Jr. (5th gen.) married Evelyn Warburton.

Laura Gladys Kirby (4th gen.) married Homer Hamilton. Their family consisted of two daughters:

Fifth Generation

Lola Hamilton

Ola Hamilton

William Edward Kirby (4th gen.) married Edith Clift. Their family consisted of one son and three daughters:

Fifth Generation

Duval Kirby

Lucille Kirby

Mildred Kirby

Bula May Kirby

Bertram Wesley Kirby (4th gen.) married Lillie Pinkley.

Their family consisted of two daughters and one son:

Fifth Generation

Evalena Kirby

Opal Kirby

Paul W. Kirby

Paul W. Kirby served two years in World War II; was wounded in France.

Archie Medas Kirby (3rd gen.) was married a second time to Annie Durall April 2, 1890. Their family consisted of two sons, three daughters and twins which died at birth:

<i>Fourth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>	<i>Died</i>
James Elmer Kirby	March 5, 1891	
Mary Ethel Kirby	Sept., 1893	Aug., 1937
Minnie McCall Kirby	1895	
Archie Clarence Kirby	May 2, 1897	
Golden Ophelia Kirby	Feb. 27, 1900	
Twins	1902	1902

James Elmer Kirby (4th gen.) married Ava Still on November 17, 1912, and located in Osceola, Ark. They later located in Armorel, Ark. Their family consisted of seven sons and one daughter:

<i>Fifth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>	<i>Died</i>
Charles Denver Kirby	Sept. 18, 1914	
Beatrice Kirby	May 22, 1917	
James Carlas Kirby Jr.	July 27, 1919	May 11, 1939
A. G. Kirby	March 24, 1923	
Robert L. Kirby	May 23, 1925	Oct. 31, 1925
O'Neal Kirby	Sept. 24, 1932	May 2, 1935
Harold Kirby	April 24, 1937	
Tyrone Kirby	Nov. 3, 1941	

Charles Denver Kirby (5th gen.) married Grace Crites, December 24, 1934. Their family consisted of one son and one daughter:

Sixth Generation

James D. Kirby

Verna Lee Kirby

Beatrice Kirby (5th gen.) married Charles Fullerton, October 27, 1935. Their family consisted of one daughter:

Sixth Generation

Born

Died

Shirley Ann Fullerton

July 29, 1936

April 17, 1937

A. G. Kirby (5th gen.) married Valerie Tobarian, December 1944, in Canton, Ohio, and located in Monterey Park, California.

Mary Ethel Kirby (4th gen.) married Henry Gunter and located at Humboldt, Tenn. Their family consisted of two daughters:

Fifth Generation

Geneva Gunter

Naomi Gunter

Minnie McCall Kirby (4th gen.) married A. B. Burgess.

Their family consisted of two sons and two daughters:

Fifth Generation

Lester Burgess

Estelle Burgess

Hazel Burgess

James Burgess

James Burgess served two years overseas in World War II.

Archie Clarence Kirby Jr. (4th gen.) married Estelle Lunsford. Their family consisted of one son:

Fifth Generation

Archie Clarence Kirby III.

He served two and one-half years in England in World War II, with Co. D. 1302, Engr. Reg.; was a welder.

Golden Ophelia Kirby (4th gen.) married Tescue Goodman. Their family consisted of three sons and four daughters:

Fifth Generation

Madeline Goodman

Faustine Goodman

James Goodman

Louise Goodman

Tescue Goodman Jr.

Ruth Goodman

Earnest Goodman

James Goodman served in World War II, and Tescue Goodman Jr. in the U.S. Army.

Mary A. Kirby (3rd gen.) married Charles Slater and located in Paterson, N. J. They had several children. Little is known of this family.

Eunice Coddington Kirby died on, March 20, 1862, and Jeremiah Platt Kirby (2nd gen.) was married a second time on February 19, 1863, to Roxana Preston Durkee. Their family consisted of two sons and two daughters:

<i>Third Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>	<i>Died</i>
Edward Morris Kirby	Jan. 12, 1864	
Agnes Anna Kirby	Jan. 2, 1865	April 21, 1945
Elizabeth Jane Kirby	Mar. 24, 1866	
John Walker Kirby	Dec. 16, 1868	Nov. 23, 1944

Edward Morris Kirby (3rd gen.) married Annie L. Schlemmer on August 11, 1883. Their family consisted of three sons and three daughters:

<i>Fourth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>
Herbert Shannon Kirby	July 20, 1885
Eloise Kirby	July 4, 1887
Eva Frances Kirby	May 3, 1889
William Kirby	May 31, 1891
Hazel Kirby	April 4, 1893
Raymond J. Kirby	April 5, 1895

Herbert Shannon Kirby (4th gen.) married Viola Feehan on September 11, 1905. Their family consisted of two daughters:

Fifth Generation

Effie Kirby
Hazel Kirby

Effie Kirby (5th gen.) married Joseph A. McEvily on December 16, 1928. Their family consisted of one daughter and one son:

<i>Sixth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>
Florence McEvily	Sept. 23, 1930
Joseph McEvily	Jan. 18, 1932

Hazel Kirby (5th gen.) married Harold Dugan on February 3, 1935. Their family consisted of one son:

Sixth Generation

Born

Harold Dugan

Dec. 28, 1935

Eloise Kirby (4th gen.) who was a Registered Nurse and held the B.S. Degree of 1940 from Teachers College, Columbia University, married Austin Terwilliger in 1906. Their family consisted of one son:

Fifth Generation

Born

Calvin Terwilliger

Jan. 5, 1907

Calvin Terwilliger (5th gen.) married Shirley Silvert on February 9, 1929. Their family consisted of one daughter:

Sixth Generation

Born

Joyce Terwilliger

April 9, 1931

Eva Frances Kirby (4th gen.) married Albert H. Cole, Postmaster at Walker Valley, N. Y., on April 22, 1912. He died March 5, 1921. Their family consisted of one son:

Fifth Generation

Born

Huntington Cole

June 11, 1916

Huntington Cole (5th gen.) married Edith Betts on September 25, 1936. Their family consisted of one son and one daughter:

<i>Sixth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>
Donald Victor Cole	March 9, 1938
Judith Ann Cole	Dec. 5, 1939

Eva Frances Kirby (4th gen.) was again married on March 9, 1934 to George M. Harris, a man of deep religious principles and fine personality. He was Manager and Treasurer of the Greater New York Book Society of the Greater New York Conference of the S.D.A. for many years. They had no children.

William Kirby (4th gen.) married Mary C. Bellia on December 10, 1914. Their family consisted of one son and one daughter:

<i>Fifth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>
Alfred Kirby	July 13, 1917
Eloise Kirby	Dec. 13, 1919

Alfred Kirby (5th gen.) married Dorothy Clark, a Registered Nurse, on June 9, 1945.

Eloise Kirby (5th gen.) married Eugene R. Weaver on December 16, 1938. They had one son:

Sixth Generation

Born

Richard W. Weaver Sept. —, 1939

Eloise Kirby (5th gen.) was married a second time to Francis Laslo, Jr., in April, 1944. Their family consisted of two daughters:

Sixth Generation

Born

Frances Margaret Laslo Mar. 13, 1945

Margie Karen Laslo Feb. 20, 1947

Hazel Kirby (4th gen.) was married to William Frampton on April 16, 1913. He died July 25, 1935. Their family consisted of one daughter:

Fifth Generation

Born

Laura Frampton Jan. 13, 1917

Laura Frampton (5th gen.) married Harry E. Gath on January 6, 1934. He was a Gunner's Mate, 3rd Class, on Mine Sweeper, Pacific Theatre, World War II, from April 13, 1944, to December 17, 1945. Their family consisted of two daughters:

*Sixth Generation**Born*

Patricia Ellen Gath

Mar. 17, 1935

Marjorie Gath

June 19, 1940

Hazel Kirby (4th gen.) was married a second time to Frederick Martyn on November 11, 1939. They had no children.

Raymond J. Kirby (4th gen.) married Florence Feick on March 9, 1918. He was a veteran of World War I. They had one son:

*Fifth Generation**Born**Died*

Irving Kirby

April 13, 1920

1932

Agnes Anna Kirby (3rd gen.) married Thomas L. Girard in June, 1889, and located in Middletown, N. Y., where he was connected with the N. Y. O. & W. R.R. for many years. He died in 1911. Their family consisted of one son:

*Fourth Generation**Born*

Thomas Benedict Girard Sept. 4, 1891

Mrs. Girard was again married in 1914 to John J. Ryan of Ellenville who conducted a marble yard there under the firm name of Ryan & Wells. He died in 1923.

Thomas Benedict Girard (4th gen.), Superintendent of Transportation of the N. Y. O. & W. R.R. in Middletown, N. Y., married Esther Johnson on October 4, 1913. Their family consisted of two daughters:

<i>Fifth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>
Constance Girard	Feb. 12, 1919
Barbara Girard	Nov. 3, 1927

Constance Girard (5th gen.), who held a B.A. degree (1941) from Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vermont, married Lieut. Edmund Hunt Brown of World War II, in 1942, and located in Middletown, N. Y. Their family consisted of one daughter:

<i>Sixth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>
Cynthia Girard Brown	Nov. 30, 1945

Elizabeth Jane Kirby (3rd gen.) married Daniel Durkes of Dallas Center, Iowa, on October 11, 1905, and located in Chicago where Mr. Durkes was engaged in piano construction. They later came to New York City. They had no children.

John Walker Kirby (3rd gen.), an expert accountant, married Mary S. Voelker of Williamsport, Pa., December 28,

1896, and located in New York City. Their family consisted of one son:

<i>Fourth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>	<i>Died</i>
John Walker Kirby Jr.	Aug. 17, 1904	May 26, 1947

John Walker Kirby Jr. (4th gen.) attended the New York Military Academy at Cornwall, N. Y., also the Peekskill Military Academy at Peekskill, N. Y., in 1919-1922, and for many years was on the News Staff of the *New York Times* in New York City. His great interest was in the field of music, being a member of and contributor to the Metropolitan Opera Guild in New York City.

William S. Kirby (2nd gen.) married Frances Peck of Stratford, Conn., December 13, 1852. She died in 1868. Their family consisted of four sons and two daughters:

<i>Third Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>	<i>Died</i>
William S. Kirby Jr.	Nov. 9, 1853	Jan. —, 1926
Anna Kirby	Feb. 10, 1855	Feb. 23, 1941
Charles E. Kirby	Mar. 8, 1858	1902
Robert P. Kirby	Jan. 17, 1863	1890
Phebe K. Kirby	Oct. 14, 1860	When young
Lewis J. Kirby	June 29, 1866	When young

William S. Kirby Jr. (3rd gen.) located in Chicago. He was with the C. B. & Q. R.R. as Train Master for many years, and was finally advanced to the important position of Division Superintendent of the Burlington Route; later to Assistant Manager of the Burlington System. He married Carrie V. Thompson of Plainfield, Illinois, who died in April, 1939. Their family consisted of one son and two daughters:

<i>Fourth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>
Anna Francis Kirby	Feb. 23, 1879
Lloyd G. Kirby	Nov. 22, 1880
Jennie H. Kirby	Sept. 18, 1885

Anna Francis Kirby (4th gen.) married Frederick W. Phillips, Sept. 15, 1898, a church organist and musician of some note. He died Dec. 19, 1931. Their family consisted of two sons, both born in Chicago:

<i>Fifth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>
William Kirby Phillips	July 26, 1899
Charles Thompson Phillips	Nov. 12, 1901

William Kirby Phillips (5th gen.) married Dorothy Beddell. Their family consisted of one daughter and one son:

Sixth Generation

Patricia Anne Phillips

Ronald William Phillips

Charles Thompson Phillips (5th gen.) married Winifred Hess, Sept. 17, 1932. Their family consisted of one son:

Sixth Generation

Born

Stephen Wendell Phillips March 10, 1937

Lloyd G. Kirby (4th gen.) attended the University of Wisconsin at Madison, Wis., went to the Philippine Islands in 1905 as a teacher of English and became Division Superintendent of Schools in one of the Provinces. He returned to the U.S. and located in Lansing, Michigan, where he married May Madden Person, the daughter of a Michigan Supreme Court Judge. Later he moved to Flint, Michigan, to accept the position of Vice-President of a Trust Company and later Director of Finance of the City of Flint. They had no children.

Jennie H. Kirby (4th gen.) married Claude V. Russell, M.D., on October 11, 1906. They located in Lansing, Michigan, where Dr. Russell became a prominent physician and surgeon. Their family consisted of four children, two boys and two girls:

*Fifth Generation**Born*

Kirby Frank Russell	March 30, 1909
William Lloyd Russell	Dec. 11, 1912
Jean Frances Russell	Jan. 15, 1915
Elizabeth Russell	May 22, 1924

Anna Kirby (3rd gen.) married George Marshall who died in 1936. They located in Englewood, N. J. Their family consisted of four children, three sons and one daughter:

Fourth Generation

John Marshall died in 1935. No children

George Marshall, married with children

Anna Marshall married James Maxwell. No children

Daniel Marshall married—one son, Daniel

Charles E. Kirby (3rd gen.) married Margaret Conway of Taunton, Mass., in 1882, and located in Aurora, Illinois. She died March 17, 1894, in Aurora. Their family consisted of one daughter:

*Fourth Generation**Born**Died*

Sarah M. Kirby	Dec. 16, 1883	Nov. 3, 1946
Sarah M. Kirby (4th gen.) married George W. Esser, a		

successful business man in Aurora, Ill., for over thirty years in original building, on December 28, 1904. Their family consisted of two sons and three daughters:

<i>Fifth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>	<i>Died</i>
Kathleen M. Esser	March 2, 1906	
Theodore R. Esser	Oct. 24, 1908	Dec. 24, 1909
Margaret M. Esser	Oct. 17, 1910	
Carl F. Esser	July 24, 1912	
Ruth M. Esser	Feb. 12, 1920	

Kathleen M. Esser (5th gen.), a graduate from Illinois State Normal School of Bloomington, Ill. and a primary grade teacher in Aurora, Ill., married Joseph J. Stumm a chief chemist in Aurora, Ill., on April 7, 1934. They now reside in Batavia, Ill. Their family consisted of one son and one daughter:

<i>Sixth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>
Theodore J. Stumm	Dec. 5, 1938
Sarah J. Stumm	Aug. 17, 1940

Margaret M. Esser (5th gen.), a graduate from Rosary College, River Forest, Ill. and a teacher in West Aurora High School, married Lawrence J. Allen, who did personnel work

and resided in St. Louis, Mo., on August 27, 1938. Their family consisted of three sons:

<i>Sixth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>
Kirby L. Allen	April 16, 1940
Thomas Allen	April 13, 1941
Lawrence J. Allen	July 7, 1945

Carl F. Esser (5th gen.) graduated from the University of Notre Dame and was employed by the U. S. Government in the Aurora Post Office prior to enlistment in the U. S. Navy in 1943. Lieut. (j.g.) Carl F. Esser was commissioned an Ensign in the U. S. Navy in 1943; served in the Mediterranean Area as skipper of a P. T. boat. He took part in three invasions—Anzio, Elba and Southern France. He was wounded July 19, 1944, off the coast of Italy while attacking a German destroyer, and was awarded the Purple Heart; he also received the Bronze Star. He married Elizabeth Bullock in Aurora, Ill. on April 19, 1941. Their family consisted of one daughter:

<i>Sixth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>
Kathleen Esser	Jan. 26, 1942

Ruth M. Esser (5th gen.) was a graduate of Rosary College, River Forest, Ill., and received her Master's Degree in

Medical Social Service from St. Louis University. Was employed in the Social Service Department of Cook County Hospital, Chicago, prior to her marriage to James Hill Gormsen in Aurora on June 4, 1944. Lieut. James Hill Gormsen was commissioned an Ensign in the U. S. Navy in 1942, served in the Pacific Theatre and took part in the Okinawa Invasion. He was made full Lieutenant and remained in the service; being stationed in Washington in the Navy Department of Public Information. Their family consisted of one daughter:

Sixth Generation

Born

Margaret Conway Gormsen Aug. 1, 1945

James Platt Kirby (2nd gen.) married Margaret Cruver and located in Newburgh, N. Y. Their family consisted of two sons and three daughters:

Third Generation

William Kirby

George Kirby

Jennie Kirby

Mary Anna Kirby

Nettie Kirby

George Kirby (3rd gen.) married Julia Dixon of Newburgh, N. Y. Their family consisted of one daughter:

Fourth Generation

Georgia Kirby

Jennie Kirby married Lou Humbert and located near Long Branch, N. J. They had no children.

Mary Anna Kirby married Willie Dannatt of Newburgh, N. Y. They had no children.

Nettie Kirby married Richard Wade and located in New York City. They had one son:

Fourth Generation

Frederick Wade

Margaret Cruver died and James Platt Kirby was married a second time to Sarah Garrison of Philadelphia. Their family consisted of two sons and one daughter:

Third Generation

Charles Kirby, who married and located in Philadelphia

May Kirby, who married and located in Philadelphia

Herbert Kirby, who married and located in Philadelphia.

Little is known of the four other members (2nd gen.) of the original Kirby family born in the United States, or their families if they had any.

Jeremiah Platt Kirby (2nd gen.) was a leading and highly respected citizen of the community in which he lived, a careful, industrious man of sterling worth, of deep religious convictions and an ardent worker in the M. E. Church. For more than twenty-five years he held an Exhorters License as a lay preacher from the Presiding Elder of the Newburgh District, and made good and wise use of the same up to the time of his death. About eight years after his second marriage he located on a farm on the Shawangunk Mountains, three miles west of Walker Valley, and within two miles of the old log house erected by his father, in which he was born. In addition to farming, in his younger days he learned the trade of a stonemason, and assisted in the erection of many important buildings.

James Platt Kirby (2nd gen.) for many years resided in Newburgh, N. Y. He was a Civil Engineer and Surveyor and became City Surveyor of Newburgh where he surveyed many important streets in that city and Walden, and drew many maps of Newburgh and the surrounding country. He was also a public school teacher of some note, holding a State License. One of his students was the late Hon. Benjamin B. Odell, twice Governor of New York State. In his later years he retired to his old home in Ulsterville, N. Y.



JAMES WALKER DURKEE



THE DURKEE FAMILY

Historical

It is probable that the Durkee family was established in the Americas about 1713 and was originally located in Nova Scotia about the time of the English capture of the French settlement at Port Royale. The family supposedly separated, one branch leaving Canada and migrating to a section later to be known as Vermont, but then claimed by both New York and Massachusetts.

The first known record of the Durkee family is recorded about 1774 when a certain Thomas Durkee was commissioned a Captain in the military organization known as the Green Mountain Boys under the Command of General Ethan Allen. A record of Captain Thomas Durkee's army service is not clear, but mention is made of his participation at the capture of Fort Ticonderoga in 1775.

It is presumed that Captain Thomas Durkee was the father of Doctor Daniel Green Durkee.

The Rump family was closely related to the Stephen Preston family, both families residing in the vicinity of Montgomery, Orange County, New York. Corporal Preston served in the

Continental Army under Captain Preston and spent that terrible winter in Valley Forge in 1776, with George Washington.

Daniel Green Durkee, M. D., was born in the State of Massachusetts January 15, 1782; died April 20, 1856. He married Elizabeth Rump July 18, 1818, born September 26, 1789; died August 19, 1857. She was the daughter of Christian Rump and Catherine Noyes. Christian Rump, son of Peter Rump, belonged to the 4th Regiment Orange County Militia, New York.

Doctor Daniel Green Durkee resided one mile south of Pine Bush, Orange County, N. Y., on a small farm where he did some farming, practiced medicine, and also kept a tavern for many years. He was a very successful physician, well and favorably known by the citizens of the community as one of the most substantial residents of that period; and it is reported maintained a very respectable house where protection and refreshment were furnished for man and beast to weary travelers who were glad to rest and refresh themselves under the protecting dome of his temple, finding it a welcome oasis. The house was situated on the corner at the cross roads, an attractive and beautiful location known as "Durkee's Corners" to this day. One of the amusing anecdotes told of the Doctor was

his habit of poking his horse with his umbrella in order to speed up his horse and buggy transportation when in haste to call on a suffering patient, in lieu of a horsewhip, while in pursuit of his honored profession.

Genealogical

The family of Doctor Daniel Green Durkee and Elizabeth Rump Durkee consisted of eight children, three sons and five daughters:

<i>Second Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>	<i>Died</i>
Mary Catherine Durkee	Nov. 21, 1819	Jan. 30, 1888
Alpheus Dimmick Durkee	Feb. 25, 1821	April 1880
Rebecca Ann Durkee	May 25, 1823	1890
Lucinda Durkee	Dec. 19, 1825	Sept. 27, 1828
Eliza Ann Durkee	Oct. 9, 1828	Jan. 23, 1912
Marshall Durkee	Jan. 17, 1830	Sept. 7, 1833
Daniel Green Durkee, Jr.	Aug. 1, 1832	In Army 1864
Roxana Preston Durkee	July 24, 1834	Mar. 16, 1896

Mary Catherine Durkee (2nd gen.) married Jacob Walker, April 13, 1844, and located in Walker Valley, N. Y. The genealogy of their family is traced in detail in the history of the Walker family.

Alpheus Dimmick Durkee (2nd gen.) married Christena Cameron MacCallum, November 5, 1856, and located in Walden, Orange County, N. Y. Their family consisted of six sons and two daughters:

<i>Third Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>	<i>Died</i>
Edward B. Durkee		2 yrs., 4 mos.
Alpheus M. Durkee		10 mos.
William Martin Durkee	Nov. 6, 1857	Jan. 14, 1933
Charles Adams Durkee	Oct. 16, 1862	Oct. 30, 1925
James Walker Durkee	Jan. 9, 1865	Feb. 15, 1937
Mary Elizabeth Durkee	Dec. 25, 1872	
Jannett Simpson Durkee	Mar. 25, 1877	April 5, 1882
Walter Augustus Durkee	Oct. 24, 1868	

William Martin Durkee (3rd gen.) who was Chief of the Walden Fire Department for over 30 years, married Mary Emma Bingley of Sheffield, England, March 3, 1883 and located in Walden, N. Y. Their family consisted of two sons and one daughter:

<i>Fourth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>	<i>Died</i>
Walter Kinloch Durkee	Aug. 29, 1884	
James Harrison Durkee	Jan. 24, 1886	Oct. 18, 1918
Emma Louise Durkee	May 23, 1889	

Walter Kinloch Durkee (4th gen.) married Jennie May Buntin, May 17, 1916. They had no children.

Emma Louise Durkee (4th gen.) married Leslie Irwin, May 20, 1913. They had no children.

Charles Adams Durkee (3rd gen.) married Frances Schambach, October 10, 1889, and located in Walden, N. Y. Their family consisted of one son and two daughters:

<i>Fourth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>
Violet Cameron Durkee	Nov. 27, 1892
Charles Raymond Durkee	Dec. 6, 1890
Jessie Goldney Durkee	Jan. 28, 1897

Violet Cameron Durkee (4th gen.) married Earl F. Dingmann, April 5, 1918. Their family consisted of one son and two daughters:

<i>Fifth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>
Ruth Jane Dingmann	May 2, 1920
William T. Dingmann	July 20, 1921
Christine Cameron Dingmann	Feb. 7, 1924

Charles Raymond Durkee (4th gen.) married Helen E. Lunberg. Their family consisted of one son and one daughter:

*Fifth Generation**Born*

Charles Raymond Durkee Jr.

Helen F. Durkee

Charles Raymond Durkee Jr. (5th gen.) married Verna Marsh of Florida in 1937. He died in Italy in 1943, in World War II. Their family consisted of one son and one daughter:

*Sixth Generation**Born*

Charles Raymond Durkee III

Sept. 14, 1938

Jane Frances Durkee

Feb. 25, 1940

Jessie Goldney Durkee (4th gen.) married Myron Gunsalus, April 1918. No children. She later married Joseph Van Aken of New York City, in 1945.

James Walker Durkee (3rd gen.) married Jessie Goldney, June 20, 1894, and located in New York City. Their family consisted of one son:

*Fourth Generation**Born*

Ellsworth Lee Durkee May 22, 1897

Ellsworth Lee Durkee (4th gen.) who served in the 32nd Division of the Army of Occupation in Germany in World

War I, married Else Anne Hofman, Dec. 19, 1928. Their family consisted of one son :

Fifth Generation

Born

William Hofman Durkee Jan. 11, 1930

Mary Elizabeth Durkee (3rd gen.) married Robert James Rhodes in 1892 and located in New York City. Their family consisted of one daughter :

Fourth Generation

Born

Mildred MacCallum Rhodes Aug. 8, 1893

Mildred MacCallum Rhodes (4th gen.) married Jesse S. Inscho, Sept. 17, 1915. Their family consisted of one son and one daughter :

Fifth Generation

Born

Robert Stuart Inscho Died in infancy

Ruth Elaine Inscho

Ruth Elaine Inscho (5th gen.) graduated from Barnard College, Columbia University, where she received the B.A. Degree in 1938. She was active in the social life at Barnard College, being made Permanent President of Barnard College

Alumni, Class of 1938. She married Arren C. Buchanan M.D.
They had one son:

Sixth Generation

Born

Robert James Rhodes Buchanan

Rebecca Ann Durkee (2nd gen.) married William Hammersley Fulton, October 25, 1842, and soon after located in the State of Maryland. Their family consisted of three sons and two daughters:

Third Generation

Born

Morris Fulton

Augustus Fulton

Daniel Fulton

Libbie Fulton

Eliza Fulton

Augustus Fulton (3rd gen.) married Anna Cowell and located in New York City. Their family consisted of one son and one daughter:

Fourth Generation

Born

Robert Fulton

Elizabeth Fulton

Eliza Fulton (3rd gen.) married Elijah Hosier and located near Phillipsport, Sullivan County, N. Y. Their family consisted of four sons and five daughters:

Fourth Generation *Born*

Hammersley Hosier

James W. Hosier

Alfred Hosier

Daniel Hosier

Ella Hosier

Rebecca Hosier

Sadie Hosier

Maud Hosier

Stella Hosier

Eliza Ann Durkee (2nd gen.) married Levi Morris Hultslander, November 23, 1853, and located near Searsville, Orange County, N. Y., on a good sized and productive farm. Their family consisted of three sons:

<i>Third Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>	<i>Died</i>
Moses F. Hultslander	Oct. 4, 1854	May 11, 1934
Joseph D. Hultslander	March 16, 1857	July 16, 1943
George M. Hultslander	Jan. 21, 1865	Nov. 18, 1941

Moses Freleigh Hultslander (3rd gen.) married Mary Rowland and located in Walden, N. Y. Their family consisted of two sons:

<i>Fourth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>	<i>Died</i>
Harold R. Hultslander	Sept. 11, 1883	
Morris E. Hultslander	Feb. 26, 1890	Mar. 28, 1945

Harold R. Hultslander (4th gen.) married Grace M. Halwick, May 31, 1906. Their family consisted of three children, two sons and one daughter:

<i>Fifth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>	<i>Died</i>
Rowland H. Hultslander	Mar. 19, 1907	
Lawrence Hultslander	Jan. 28, 1909	
Doris May Hultslander	Nov. 23, 1917	

Harold R. Hultslander (4th gen.) served thirty-one years in the U. S. Postal Service in Walden, N. Y. After his wife died Dec. 14, 1917, on Sept. 20, 1922, he married Mrs. Margaret Siebert. They had no children.

Morris E. Hultslander (4th gen.) married Minnie Short. They had one son:

<i>Fifth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>	<i>Died</i>
Frank Hultslander	Sept. 8, 1922	

Morris E. Hultslander (4th gen.) served in World War I, in France with the 108th Engineering Corps. His son Frank served in World War II.

Joseph D. Hultslander (3rd gen.) married Annie Relyea, April 29, 1886. Their family consisted of one son and one daughter:

<i>Fourth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>	<i>Died</i>
Floyd Hultslander	Sept. 21, 1887	
Edna Hultslander	Feb. 17, 1889	

Floyd Hultslander (4th gen.) married Delilah Brink, March 6, 1909. Their family consisted of three children, one daughter and two sons:

<i>Fifth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>	<i>Died</i>
Bertha Hultslander	Feb. 23, 1914	
Donald Hultslander	April 6, 1918	
Floyd Hultslander, Jr.	Dec. 28, 1925	

Donald Hultslander enlisted in World War II as Air Plane Mechanic and served in the Air Force of the 9th Army in

France until close of the War. Floyd Hultslander, Jr. enlisted in World War II as Communications Man. Was in the 3rd Army and in the famous 104th Regiment under Major General Allen, known as "The Timber Wolves." Was in three major battles and received the bronze star medal for faithful performance of duty under heavy fire.

Edna Hultslander (4th gen.) married John D. Camp, November 17, 1941. They had no children.

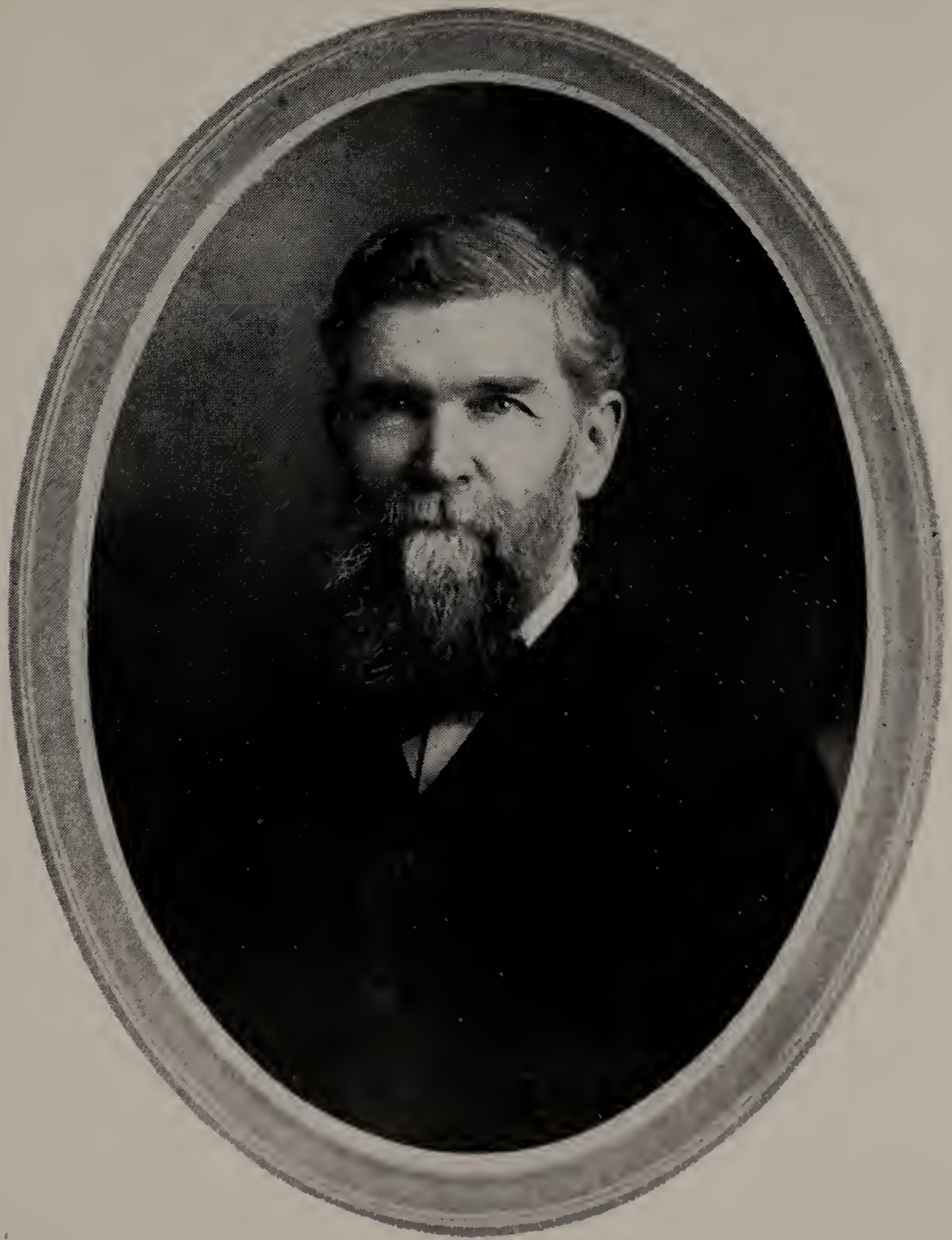
George M. Hultslander (3rd gen.) married Imogene Ward, June 20, 1901. They had no children.

Daniel Green Durkee (2nd gen.) was drafted into the Army of the North during the War of the Rebellion (1861-1865), entered the Army and was never afterward heard from. It is presumed that he was either killed in battle or died of disease before the close of the war.

Roxana Preston Durkee (2nd gen.) married Jeremiah Platt Kirby, February 19, 1863, and located at Walker Valley, Ulster County, N. Y. The genealogy of their family is given in detail in the history of the Kirby family.

It might be of interest to mention here that the four Durkee sisters (2nd gen.) were noted for their unusual beauty, high

culture, and charm. Also that they were able instructors in the public schools when it was required of the school teacher to board around among the patrons of the school. Many bridges have been crossed since then, all to the betterment of such primitive conditions.



JAMES M. WALKER

WALKER VALLEY

Walker Valley is a pretty little village nestled in the foothills of the Shawangunk Mountains, a continuation of the Catskill Range, situated in the town of Shawangunk in the edge of Ulster County, New York. Only a few miles away at the most famous point of the range with an elevation of 2340 feet, is a ledge of rocks 100 feet in height called "Sam's Point," so named history informs us, for Samuel Gonzales, an early settler who being chased by Indian savages jumped from this precipice, broke his fall in a clump of cedars and escaped unhurt; which led the Indians to believe that he possessed some supernatural power, or was especially favored by the Great Spirit.

The first white settlers came to this valley about 1814, and secured a tract of land from a tribe of Indians, believed to have been the Mohawks; and one of the first buildings to be erected was a log tavern, the remains of which are still to be found, where stage coaches stopped for refreshment and to rest their horses before making the tedious trip over the mountain to the village of Ellenville. In 1844 a log school house was built, and in 1854 the first M. E. Church was erected; and a Post Office was established under the name of James-

burgh, and this remained the name of the village until about 1860, when the name was changed to Walker Valley in honor of the Walker family which had become influential in the community. Mail was received and dispatched once a week via horse and buggy route to Pine Bush, five miles to the east, which was the terminus of a branch of the Erie Railroad. Later, when the settlement had grown into a prosperous little village with demands for increased facilities, the mail service was improved and mail received three times a week, and about 1890 the service was still further improved with a daily mail each way, with the horse and buggy still in service, and this means of transportation continued until the advent of the automobile.

The main street of the village was the Newburgh and Ellenville plank road: this road was built in 1841, and after completion toll gates were established at irregular intervals and toll collected from vehicular traffic to cover the cost of planking these thirty-three miles. It was an important and lengthy contract in those days, and it is said that when completed the planks at the starting point were nearly worn out. It is now a beautiful State road, called the "Shawangunk Trail," and provides one of the most scenic and finest drives in this part of the State.

The blacksmith shop was not only a great necessity in those days, but was also a popular place to drop in and get the news. The oldest inhabitant can just remember Joshua Saunders as the artisan who wielded the hammer, but removed to Burlingham about 1876, and was succeeded by John Houston who became "the village blacksmith," a good citizen and a good blacksmith, (which is saying something) and the tuneful music of his hammer on the anvil was heard for a generation, until he was gathered to his fathers about the time of the advent of the automobile and the exit of the horse, which made the blacksmith shop of minor necessity.

The name of the original postmaster is not known; the oldest inhabitant cannot remember any individual holding this important post previous to J. C. Eckert, the wagon maker, who was postmaster from the time of the Civil War up to the period when Grover Cleveland was elected President, when it is assumed that political expediency required a change, and Cornelius Barnhart was appointed to this important office in the community, and the Post Office was removed to the corner store where the familiar sign of "C. Barnhart" hung over the door for nearly half a century. Mr. Barnhart was several times elected Justice of the Peace of the town of Shawangunk, and was familiarly known to many of his inti-

mate friends as "Squire Barnhart." He was noted for his reticence, independence, and loyalty to his friends. He has long since been gathered to his fathers, but the country store still remains on that same corner it has occupied for one hundred years; which corner was the crossroads of the village.

The crossroads as usual in the typical village was, to a certain extent, the center of activity; three miles to the east was the beautiful little hamlet of Ulsterville, doubtless so named for the County in which it is located. Its environs were most attractive with its fine location and surroundings; a small collection of comfortable homes at the crossroads under the shade of majestic maple trees, with the customary store, post-office, blacksmith shop, and school house. Here James P. Kirby, a man of high scholastic ability taught the village school for many years. On the corner was a hotel kept by "Jim" Greene for more than thirty years, until one day about the year 1886, while standing in his tap room conversing with a guest he was seized with a heart attack and fell dead instantly; thus terminating the career of a host known to all who traveled that highway.

Here we might mention a social organization in New York City, incorporated under the name of "Ulster County Society",

with some six hundred members, composed entirely of natives, residents, or former residents of Ulster County.

To the south four miles the road led to the little village of Burlingham, Sullivan County, which boasted of a popular and efficient brass band that was in great demand in the surrounding country. The road to the north three miles led to a little hamlet near the foot of the mountains with a postoffice named Crawford, familiarly known to many of the old residents as "The Old Leather Factory", for the reason that a tannery was located there at one time but disappeared about 1875. To the west a plank road led over the mountain to the busy and thriving village of Ellenville, which was an important market and railroad terminal. Three miles up, on the top of the mountain in a beautiful location was a little hamlet of a dozen houses or more, a hotel run by a man named John L. Decker, and a postoffice under the name of Evansville, doubtless so named on account of a number of families residing in that section by the name of Evans; it was a very convenient and comfortable shelter for rest and refreshment before starting on the five mile descent to Ellenville.

One night about 1880 the Decker Hotel caught fire and was burned to the ground; and this was followed by a series of

conflagrations, one after another, until every residence in the hamlet was destroyed within about five years, with the exception of the stone house occupied by Jacob Mance and his family, and his barn a conspicuous frame building by the roadside. In the meantime the postoffice had been discontinued, and the happy little community was nothing but a memory. Jacob Mance owned a farm and resided here for a generation and was known to nearly everyone who traveled this road; a quiet man of sterling worth respected by all. His family of seven passed away one by one until the entire family had disappeared, but the old stone house still remains as a landmark. Since that time many notable homes were built on that scenic mountain top, among which was the home of George Inness, famous landscape painter. The lovely and charming home of Mary Pearl Eaton overlooking the Rondout Valley and Catskill Mountains, Cragsmoor Inn, a postoffice, church, and stores. The place was renamed "Cragsmoor" a most fitting name for that charming location.

The Walker Valley M. E. Church (the only church in the village) built in 1854 very largely by the Walker family, was struck by lightning on July 18, 1907, and completely destroyed by fire. It was replaced in 1908 with a new and more modern building on the same site which was made possible by the de-

votion and untiring efforts of James M. Walker (4th gen.) one of the trustees. He immediately called a meeting in Walker Valley of which he was made Chairman and located in Walker Valley for an extended period to personally supervise the erection and architecture of the new church. He obtained subscriptions from over 160 people ranging in amounts from \$1.00 to \$300.00, and within one year, on May 30, 1908, the new church was dedicated, complete in every detail and free of debt; subscriptions and donations were paid in full by the time the church was completed. All due to the work and continued efforts of a good man who kept the faith of his fathers and gave of himself and substance to the promotion of the most worthwhile things in life. Every window in the new church was taken by a family (two by the Walker family) as a memorial for loved ones, and a number of additional requests could not be granted, which is an indication of the loyal support given the church by the good people of this community.

Just across the street from the church is the well kept Walker Valley Cemetery, including the beautiful private burying ground of the Walker family, to the frontage of which is a landscaped park with walks, trees and flowers, and is well cared for by the family whose name it bears. The old Walker Valley Cemetery had been neglected for many years and was

overrun with wild grass and weeds of every description. Here, again, Mr. Walker left his home in Walden and sought temporary shelter in Walker Valley for a year to supervise, reclaim, and open up a new addition to this cemetery. He obtained subscriptions from plot owners, laid out new walks and drives, planted evergreen trees, built a vault, until today it is not only a "thing of beauty" but a credit to Walker Valley. All expenses were taken care of and a surplus placed in the savings bank as a Perpetual Care Fund which continues to grow from year to year. Thus, another instance where a good man came to the rescue of a neglected field.

Here we might also mention the many religious and social activities of James M. Walker in connection with the Walden M. E. Church, of which he and his family were devoted and life long members. Many projects were entrusted to his care, financially and otherwise, which he brought to a successful and happy conclusion, among which was the building of the new church at a cost of \$20,000, and later the erection of a new parsonage at a cost of about \$5,000, obtained by subscription and personal contributions. The parsonage is said to be one of the finest parsonages in the Newburgh District.

THE WALKER FAMILY

Historical

Some years ago a society was organized and incorporated under the name of "The Walker Family", designed to include in its membership all the decedents of the original Walker family. Jacob S. Walker of the 5th generation held the office of President of the Society, and a custom was adopted of holding an Annual Reunion of the Walker family on each Memorial Day at Walker Valley. All the descendants and relatives are invited, a collation is served, the graves of the departed decorated with flowers, and a memorial service held in the M. E. Church; a loving and fitting tribute to the memory of those who have gone before, and a splendid expression of appreciation of the well spent lives and work of a noble family who left their imprint on this community, and whose influence for the best and noblest things in life will be felt for the years to come.

The Walker family became leading citizens of the community taking an active part in all good works, being the strongest supporters of the Walker Valley M. E. Church. James Smith Walker (Reverend James Smith Walker) was a regularly ordained minister of the M. E. Church. Jacob

Walker, his brother, was perhaps the most ardent and never ceasing worker in the Church, Sunday School, and all religious matters; and it is safe to say that the results of his work had an influence on the community which is felt to this day. His home was always open to the minister when he came to preach on Sunday afternoon, and the men of the cloth were not slow to accept this generous hospitality. The younger generations continued their interest in religious matters and became very active workers in the Walker Valley and Walden M. E. Churches, and that same commendable interest has continued from generation to generation to this day.

In addition to farming, Jacob Walker for many years kept a General Store on the corner just across the road from his house, known as Jacob Walker & Son. About 1874 he opened a branch store in Walden, N. Y., with his son James M. Walker in charge, in which his daughter Mary Elizabeth Walker was also interested, and for some years he drove a market wagon from Walker Valley to Newburgh three times a week.

On June 23, 1875, Mary Elizabeth Walker married James S. Eaton, distinguished gentleman of brilliant attainments, Principal of the Walden High School, Principal of Chester

Academy, and Chairman of the Board of Elders of the First Reformed Church of Walden. Subsequently Mr. Eaton took over his wife's interest in the Walker store, and the firm of Walker & Eaton became two of the leading business houses in Walden for some fourteen years.

Genealogical

The original John Walker Sr. was born in 1771 and died in 1852. His son James Walker Sr. (2nd gen.) (1791-1853) married Mary Meakin. They took up their residence at Jamesburgh (later Walker Valley) about 1825, and were among the pioneers who settled and developed that section of Ulster County, destined to become a charming little village of comfortable homes with a pretty surrounding country populated by substantial, industrious and patriotic citizens. Mr. Walker was regarded as a shrewd and careful business man, and by industriously cultivating his farm, and clever trading, laid the foundation of what later became a comfortable resource for the generation following. Their family consisted of three sons:

<i>Third Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>	<i>Died</i>
Jacob Walker	1818	Aug. 27, 1888
James Smith Walker	1830	Feb. 8, 1893
John Walker	1826	1870

Jacob Walker (3rd gen.) married Mary Catherine Durkee, daughter of Dr. Daniel Green Durkee, April 13, 1844. Their family consisted of two sons and two daughters:

<i>Fourth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>	<i>Died</i>
James M. Walker	Feb. 28, 1845	June 5, 1918
Mary Elizabeth Walker	Aug. 16, 1846	April 14, 1919
Daniel Walker	June 14, 1850	July 22, 1872
Phoebe J. Walker	Sept. 1, 1857	Feb. 10, 1861

James M. Walker (4th gen.) married Mary Elizabeth Gillespie, September 7, 1876. She died in 1902. Their family consisted of four sons and two daughters:

<i>Fifth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>	<i>Died</i>
Gussie Walker	July 13, 1877	July 10, 1932
Mary Walker	July 13, 1877	
Jacob S. Walker	June 12, 1880	
J. Renwick Walker	Oct. 19, 1882	
John Vincent Walker	May 15, 1888	Sept. 1905
Harold H. Walker	Aug. 23, 1898	

Gussie Walker (5th gen.) married John M. Westerman of Walden in 1901. Their family consisted of two sons:

*Sixth Generation**Born*

James Raymond Westerman Aug. 20, 1904

John M. Westerman Jr. Aug. 20, 1906

James Raymond Westerman (6th gen.) a successful business man and President of the Board of Education in Walden, married Gladys Weir, June 25, 1930. Their family consisted of four sons :

*Seventh Generation**Born*

George R. Westerman May 31, 1931

J. Robert Westerman Jan. 17, 1933

William H. Westerman Jan. 31, 1935

Roger F. Westerman May 1, 1944

John M. Westerman Jr. (6th gen.) married Olive Wynkoop, August 10, 1930. Their family consisted of one son and one daughter :

*Seventh Generation**Born*

John T. Westerman Sept. 12, 1931

Elaine Frances Westerman Nov. 17, 1938

Mary Walker (5th gen.) married David Decker of Walden, N. Y. Their family consisted of one daughter :

*Sixth Generation**Born*

Helen Louise Decker July 20, 1898

Later Mary Walker married Fred H. Blood of Winter Haven, Fla., on March 8, 1942. Mr. Blood was in the undertaking business in New York City for over 30 years. A man of high standing and great worth. There were no children.

Helen Louise Decker (6th gen.) married Lewis Bradley Boat of Walden. Their family consisted of one daughter and two sons:

*Seventh Generation**Born*

Patricia Mary Boat April 27, 1935

James Donald Boat Nov. 25, 1940

Paul Frederick Boat April 5, 1943

Jacob S. Walker (5th gen.) trustee of Walden Methodist Church over 35 years, treasurer for many years, also trustee and treasurer of Endowment Funds of Walker Valley Church since 1918; Charter member of Colonel Bradley Hose Co.; Walden Rotary Club; Walden Building & Loan Association of which he was President for 6 years; served 6 years on Board of Education, 3 years on Board of Health, several years on Y.M.C.A. Board, and President of Chamber of Commerce 5

years. Mr. Walker was a member of Walden Masonic Lodge F. & A. M., raised in 1919, also Odd Fellows Lodge since 1925. He erected the Walker Block in 1911, the largest commercial building in Walden. He married Mary A. Mould of Montgomery, N. Y., September 12, 1906. Their family consisted of two daughters:

Sixth Generation

Born

Mary Elizabeth Walker Sept. 2, 1908

Evelyn Walker May 22, 1915

Mary Elizabeth Walker (6th gen.) who held the B.A. degree from Elmira College, Elmira, N. Y., married Harold J. Janville of Maybrook, N. Y. on August 2, 1934. Harold J. Janville was commissioned a Lieutenant in the Officers Reserve Corps U.S.A. while in College at Syracuse, N. Y. In 1941, at the outbreak of World War II, he was immediately called for active service. He served some two years in the United States at which time he was promoted to Captain, then served nearly two years overseas in European campaigns. On October 31, 1946, was promoted to rank of Major from Adjutant Generals Office, Washington, D. C. Their family consisted of two daughters:

*Seventh Generation**Born*

Marilyn Charlotte Janville

Aug. 27, 1938

Donna Jean Janville

March 9, 1944

Evelyn Walker (6th gen.) who held a B. S. degree from Cornell University, married Frank Anthony Ready, Jr. of New York on April 30, 1938. At the outbreak of World War II, Frank A. Ready, Jr. enlisted in the U. S. Marine Corps. He was commissioned a Lieutenant and after some service in the U. S. was promoted to Captain. He served overseas in the Pacific Campaign with the 5th Marine Division. Their family consisted of one son and one daughter:

*Seventh Generation**Born*

Frank Anthony Ready III

May 12, 1940

Gail Walker Ready

April 4, 1945

J. Renwick Walker (5th gen.) a lifelong member of Walden Methodist Church, of which he was also trustee, member of Wallkill Lodge No. 627 F. & A. M. for many years, trustee of Walden Savings Bank for over 30 years, also served as Treasurer of the Walker Family Cemetery Association; Charter member of Walden Rotary Club, and refused many positions

of honor to care for an invalid wife. He married Mabel Gale. They had no children.

John Vincent Walker (5th gen.) who gave great promise as a musician, and was prepared to enter Syracuse University in 1905, died in his 17th year.

Harold Haviland Walker (5th gen.) enlisted in the 71st Regiment, 27th Division, in 1917, World War I, while in high school. He served overseas in France and Belgium. Was over the top three times and came home unharmed. His father, James M. Walker (4th gen.) died while he was overseas and a service flag in his honor was placed on the casket. He married Alverna Hilburn Trimble of Plymouth, Penn., June 3, 1921, in Syracuse, N. Y. Their family consisted of two daughters:

Sixth Generation

Born

Elizabeth Louise Walker July 20, 1922

Jean Trimble Walker June 9, 1931

Mary Elizabeth Walker (4th gen.) married James Stuart Eaton, a man of high educational background, brilliant attainments and charming personality, on June 23rd, 1875. Mr. Eaton was Principal of the Walden High School for many

years, also Principal of Chester Academy, and Chairman of the Board of Elders of the First Reformed Church of Walden. Their family consisted of two sons and one daughter:

<i>Fifth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>
J. Walker Eaton	1879
Mary Pearl Eaton	1882
Stuart Eaton	1885

J. Walker Eaton (5th gen.) married Norma Coakley in 1909. They had no children. He served his country as a Lieutenant in the Navy during World War I, and later located at Rockford, Illinois. During World War II he was Chief Chemist and Metallurgist in the Ordinance Division of the Defense Plant in Rockford, Illinois.

Mary Pearl Eaton (5th gen.) graduated from Wellesley College in 1904; later received the M. A. degree from Columbia University. She was Head of the English Department in Wadleigh High School, New York City, from 1920-1944, and held the same position for a number of years in the Newtown High School, Queens, New York City.

Stuart Eaton (5th gen.) married Daisy Eaton, and lived in New York City, Butte, Montana; Berkeley, California, and

Jacksonville, Florida. Their family consisted of one son and one daughter :

<i>Sixth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>
Stuart Cliff Eaton	Oct. 13, 1910
Ruth Eaton	May 16, 1920

Stuart Cliff Eaton (6th gen.) was a Sergeant in World War II. He married Jeannette M. Walter in 1942. Their family consisted of one son and one daughter :

<i>Seventh Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>
Stuart Cliff Eaton, Jr.	April 9, 1944
Judith Eaton	August 16, 1946

Ruth Eaton (6th gen.) married James C. Neal in 1944.

The Reverend James Smith Walker (3rd gen.) was a duly ordained minister of the M. E. Church and for many years fulfilled the mission of his chosen field with marked ability and success. He married Carolyn A. McGill who died in 1891. Their family consisted of one son and three daughters :

<i>Fourth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>	<i>Died</i>
John Walker III		1882
Sarah Emmaline Walker		1931
Anna Elizabeth Walker		Jan. 1934
Mary Carolyn Walker	April 10, 1867	Nov. 16, 1932

John Walker III (4th gen.) married Mary Fitzgerald in 1880. Their family consisted of one son:

<i>Fifth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>
Gerald Smith Walker	Sept. 11, 1881

Gerald Smith Walker (5th gen.) married Frances R. Cleary and located in New York City. Their family consisted of one son:

<i>Sixth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>
James A. Walker	July 9, 1915

James A. Walker (6th gen.) married Lucille Murphy, Sept. 19, 1937. Their family consisted of two daughters:

<i>Seventh Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>
Lucilla A. Walker	Sept. 21, 1941
Susan E. Walker	May 22, 1945

Sarah Emmaline Walker (4th gen.) married John Rogers and located first in Stockton, California. Their family consisted of two sons and one daughter, all natives of Butler, New Jersey:

<i>Fifth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>
Russell Walker Rogers	Feb. 1, 1888
Fred Joseph Rogers	Dec. 10, 1892
Caroline Elisabeth Rogers	Jan. 19, 1893

Russell Walker Rogers (5th gen.), a dentist, located in San Francisco, Cal. He married Jessie Hesse.

Fred Joseph Rogers (5th gen.), a lawyer, located in Fresno, Cal. He married Grace Smith. Their family consisted of two sons and one daughter:

<i>Sixth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>
Russell Warren Rogers	Sept. 27, 1927
Richard Walker Rogers	Aug. 7, 1929
Patricia Elisabeth Rogers	Oct. 9, 1931

Caroline Elisabeth Rogers (5th gen.), a teacher, located in Fresno, Cal., unmarried.

Anna Elizabeth Walker (4th gen.) married Arthur Starr

Clark of Vineland, N. J., and located in Brooklyn, N. Y. He died May 30, 1932. Their family consisted of one son and two daughters:

<i>Fifth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>
Edna Grace Clark	Nov. 13, 1877
Walker Starr Clark	Nov. 24, 1898
Sarah Elizabeth Clark	July 18, 1905

Edna Grace Clark (5th gen.) married Ernest Sanderson of Brooklyn, N. Y., April 28, 1909. He died in April 1934. Their family consisted of one daughter:

<i>Sixth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>
Anne Sanderson	Jan. 19, 1912

Anne Sanderson (6th gen.) was a graduate of Hunter College, New York, where she specialized in dramatics. Her hobby was the making of marionettes and organized a group called "Anne Sanderson Marionettes". The dolls were handmade to her designs, hands and feet carved from solid blocks of wood by Anne. Her play arranged around "Beauty and the Beast" with music, brought delight to the many groups of children who saw it. She married Leif Gerlach of Copenhagen, Denmark, on July 23, 1943 at the "Little Church Around the

Corner", and located in New York City. Their family consisted of one son :

Seventh Generation

Born

Peer Gerlach

Jan. 31, 1945

Walker Starr Clark (5th gen.) married Mary Stoehr on June 20, 1937, and located in Brooklyn, N. Y. They had no children. He was a Corporal in the Army of World War I and served as a Machine Gunner in the Infantry, and had a most narrow escape from death in the blistering artillery fire from the Germans. His best friend next to him was instantly killed and Walker's uniform splashed with his blood, and just as they were ordered to move forward into the breach of the sacrificed company of Infantry ahead, a messenger on a motorcycle arrived and called to the Captain to stop as the Armistice had been signed.

Sarah Elizabeth Clark (5th gen.) married George Laing of Aberdeen, Scotland, in Boston, Mass., on June 19, 1939 and located in New York City. They had no children. Mr. Laing was a Marine Engineer for 25 years in the United States. He was a Commander in the Maritime Service during World War II, crossing and recrossing with the convoys and saw action in the European theatre of war.

Mary Carolyn Walker (4th gen.) married Robert Ellison Soare, December 14, 1892, of Walden, N. Y. They later located in Leonia, N. J. Their family consisted of two sons and one daughter:

<i>Fifth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>	<i>Died</i>
Irving Walker Soare	Aug. 26, 1894	
William Fulton Soare	April 3, 1896	Feb. 29, 1940
Marion Louise Soare	April 10, 1902	

Irving Walker Soare (5th gen.) married Margaret Gordon Whaley of South Orange, N. J., on August 3, 1935. They located in Hackensack, N. J. Their family consisted of one son and one daughter:

<i>Sixth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>
Robert Irving Soare	Dec. 22, 1940
Margaret Carol Soare	April 17, 1943

William Fulton Soare (5th gen.) married Valdora Seissinger of Memphis, Tenn., on Feb. 23, 1935. They located in Englewood, N. J. Their family consisted of one son:

<i>Sixth Generation</i>	<i>Born</i>
Thomas Fulton Soare	Nov. 22, 1936

Thomas Fulton Soare (6th gen.) and his mother located in Roswell, New Mexico.

Marion Louise Soare (5th gen.) married Arthur B. Markus of Chicago, Sept. 4, 1943, now living in New York City. They had no children.

John Walker (3rd gen.) married Mary C. Flagler. She died on Feb. 3, 1914. They resided near Walker Valley, N. Y. He left a substantial endowment to the Walker Valley M. E. Church, also to the Walker Family Cemetery. They had no children.

It might here be mentioned that this is the John Walker for whom the author of this book was named, a name he treasured, loved and honored, and gave to his son John Walker Kirby, Jr., who was also grateful and proud of the inheritance.

